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letters

FLEA TREATMENTS AND CANINE SEIZURES

It was distressing not to see in the recent *EW* piece about dog epilepsy (“A Dog’s Life, *EW* 6/10) any mention of the major role that flea treatments can play in triggering canine epilepsy. This is not some esoteric conspiracy theory, nor do I intend here to cite multiple references. The phenomenon is acknowledged in brand-name listings of potential side effects. Anyone can see this confirmed on the manufacturers’ websites.

Whereas most dog breeds have what is known as a blood-brain barrier, which effectively filters out most toxic substances and prevents them from entering the brain circulation, there are many breeds, especially herding breeds such as collies, that lack this barrier. The result of the neurotoxins of the flea treatment entering the brain of these animals is epilepsy.

Since a mixed-breed dog could have the genes that make this barrier ineffective, it could be at risk of this happening. (Unless a treatment were to be prefaced by a genetic analysis?)

In general it would seem that this risk is left obscure, as though if we all agree to ignore it, then it doesn’t exist.

How these treatments came to be approved is difficult to explain, other than the power of the pharmaceutical lobby.

Dog-lovers: If you do not want to see your animal suffer an epileptic seizure, then inform yourself about this serious potential side effect. Optimally find a flea treatment that does not involve this risk.

Carlis Nixon
Eugene

Editor’s note: Flea treatments were not mentioned in the essay about Aksel and his epilepsy because, while they can be a cause of seizures and can lower the seizure threshold in dogs with a seizure history, they are not a cause of idiopathic epilepsy.

WILDE DIDN’T MISS THE POINT

In “Leaving Afghanistan,” Rep. Marty Wilde attempted to recap in a 750-word op-ed the ways our 20-year investment failed to provide Afghans with a better option than the Taliban. Letter writer Jo Anne Ryan (Letters, 8/26) believed Wilde missed the point about specific failures for Afghan women. He didn’t.

In fact, recent published work about their situation shows that the U.S.-supported Afghan government offered new obstacles for women. For example, research conducted for and by Afghan women shows that despite their effective efforts to start their own businesses and serve in elective office, their reluctance to engage in the graft of government agencies — not the Taliban — presented an insurmountable obstacle to their success.

Afghan girls have their own big broth-

ers to protect them, if indeed they need protection. U.S. intervention seemed to be protecting the local grifters. It did little to nourish the honorable people of all types in their efforts to grow their own government, worthy of their loyalty, and their own economies, based on local talent and resources. The Afghans didn’t need to “catch on” to our ideas. They needed to operationalize the best of their own ideas.

We must pay close attention to the observations and insights of those who have served on the ground and/or studied the situation. Our guesses about what might make sense are likely to be of limited use without further information. And our attributions of evil intent by our own leaders also miss the point: having information matters.

Mary Leighton
Eugene

Editor’s note: Mary Leighton is Rep. Marty Wilde’s mother.

WE DIDN’T HAVE ENOUGH HOSPITAL BEDS IN THE FIRST PLACE

On Aug. 13, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown claimed that Oregon hospitals are being overwhelmed by a surge in COVID cases. But what has caused Oregon hospitals to be ill-prepared for a 20 percent increase in patients? Data from American Hospital Association and Kaiser, *New York Times*, *Washington Post* and other news articles, the Oregon Health Authority website and the standard sources of industry information make clear the following:

Since 2013, Oregon has had the lowest hospital beds per capita in the U.S. along with Washington at 1.7 per thousand. California is also poor at 1.8 per thousand.

In 1980, Oregon had 3.5 beds per thousand while the U.S. average was 4.5 per thousand. The current U.S. average is 2.4 per thousand. If Oregon had the U.S. average ratio, we would have 10,294 beds, a current large surplus and no current crisis.

As of Aug. 26, OHA shows 1,103 covid patient-occupied beds, 19.9 percent of capacity and cannot be stated to be a crisis if hospital beds were not already max-filled with regular patients at 90 percent capacity.

Europe has many more beds per capita than the U.S. Since 2013, California, Oregon and Washington, the first three states to go into serious lockdown, have had inadequately designed hospital capacities which may explain early lockdowns.

The 1980 move to austerity and privatization has incrementally deconstructed U.S. public commons services such as hospital capacity. Capitalist-driven efficiency policies of as-needed-supply do not serve the social needs of humanity. It’s time to end the 40-year

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Development at Any Cost?

CAPITAL HILL CONSTRUCTION
THREATENS NEIGHBORHOOD

In 2013 neighbors started to hear rumors about a proposed development at the top of Capital Hill in Eugene, adjacent to Hendricks Park. Tom and Cynthia Dreyer had purchased approximately 13 acres surrounding their properties, and proposed to sell lots for 30 to 40 homes to be built there. The property, at the top of the forested ridge, bordered Capital Drive and ran steeply downhill to meet the Ribbon Trail in Hendricks Park on its eastern boundary; it was a haven for wildlife and a conduit leading from the Ridgeline Trail system into Hendricks Park.

As rumor became fact, neighbors voiced concerns: the stability of the slope, the number of dwellings proposed, the lack of infrastructure to support the additional homes, the removal of trees on the ridgeline and threat to wildlife, traffic safety and emergency access on our narrow and winding roads. Neighbors organized a response committee to consider options for halting the project. The Fairmount Neighbors and Laurel Hill Valley Citizens became instrumental in our opposition to the proposed development.

For the residents, the city's decision appeared to prioritize development and property tax revenue above any of their concerns.

There were meetings, work sessions and public hearings. Letters were written to the City Planning board and testimony was submitted voicing myriad concerns. The response committee submitted a document citing "serious short-term and long-term off-site impacts on traffic, noise, stormwater runoff and environmental quality." A geologist presented extensive evidence of multiple previous landslides on the property. Excavating the steep slope would make it more unstable and landslides even more likely.

Because of the site's many difficulties, extraordinary measures are required for development: EWEB stated that the current infrastructure would be inadequate and a new water facility would need to be built to serve the development. The city's department of traffic and roads decided that Capital Drive was too narrow to allow unhindered passage of large vehicles, so on-street parking was banned which has created difficulties for the current residents.

Eventually, after public hearings, decisions and an appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA), the city approved the application. Despite overwhelming opposition to the project by area residents citing safety concerns, serious off-site impacts and geological evidence of the dangers of building on such a steep slope, the Capital Hill PUD was going to be a reality. For the residents, the city's decision appeared to prioritize development and property tax revenue above any of their concerns.

Now, as I write this, the rumble of large trucks can be heard on the street below and diesel fumes hang in the air. The property (called "University Heights" in city documents) has had most of its trees and vegetation removed, and the formerly extensive wildlife has disappeared. Large trucks move constantly up and down the hill (on some days more than 120 of them) empty on their slow journey up and full of logs and debris going down. This grim parade happens every weekday between 7 am and 5 pm.

The noise, dirt, fumes and dangerous road conditions all contribute to making our neighborhood unsafe and unlivable. The trucks are so large they straddle both lanes of Spring Boulevard and Capital Drive, making driving, walking and cycling hazardous. There have been some near misses already, and a serious accident is inevitable given the volume of construction traffic using our narrow roads. Only one route allows emergency vehicle access; therefore, if a fire occurs or an ambulance is needed, vehicles will encounter significant (and possibly fatal) delays. At the very least we should insist that safety procedures are followed by Branch Engineering and Wildish Construction; flaggers should be stationed along the truck route to reduce the risks in our neighborhood.

This scenario is playing out in other parts of Eugene, and in cities and towns across America. There is a constant tug of war between a drive for development and the needs of neighborhood residents. Should a large landowner or development company be allowed to dictate the future of a neighborhood, taking their profits with little regard for the damage they wreak? Apparently, the city of Eugene's response to this question is "yes."

We can't change the decision the city has made, but we can certainly inform our public officials and the companies carrying out this work that the construction has caused an unsafe and unacceptable situation, and immeasurable damage to the environment.

This is a cautionary tale: it's time to reckon the real costs of unhindered development.

Kim Toner has a degree in education from Boston University; she has lived on Capital Hill for 26 years.

trickle-down desocialization experiment and replace it with a direct democracy, collectively determined socialism.

*sandy sanders
Eugene*

THE GOVERNOR LACKS COURAGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

We read Gov. Kate Brown's essay in the *New York Times* "The West is on Fire: It's Past Time to Act on Climate Change" early this month and wrote to her about the steps that Oregon could take to mitigate the problem. We did not receive a reply.

The article demonstrated a striking lack of courage in speaking about the most obvious contributor to climate change in Oregon, the logging industry. She did not mention solutions such as changing the Forest Practices Act and the National Forest Management Act to require more stringent regulations, such as eliminating the harvest of old growth forest, which offer the greatest carbon sequestration of any forest on Earth, or dealing with the huge backlog of needed thinning on both public and private forestlands.

The practice of cutting old growth or mature forest and replacing it with fire-prone plantations that are rarely thinned must stop. Burnt forests must be left standing for the most efficient regeneration, except along roadsides where there is a true danger, not the latest gambit justifying overharvest by ODOT, "danger trees," by which all of the trees in the travel corridor are cut, living and dead, and even along un-used logging roads.

We were hoping for, and continue to hope for, a more truly environmentally aware governor who is interested in making the difficult choices for Oregon's future, not mouthing platitudes and requesting that Congress do something to solve the problems that are in her power to mitigate.

*Ernie and Marietta O'Byrne
Eugene*

SAVE JEFFERSON WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD

Sometimes a neighborhood just needs to stay a neighborhood! Statistically, the Jefferson-Westside neighborhood is one of the most diverse residential areas in Eugene. We value our livability and uniqueness. We appreciate our neighbors and enjoy the milieu.

Saturating our neighborhood would not significantly provide housing for many. Sure a granny apartment here and there may find friends or friends of friends habitation, but adding a four-plex or apartment development would not impact the affordable house crisis. There is no need to blitz develop in this area.

Affordable housing for rentals can only be effectively accomplished with the building of larger apartment buildings. Destroying the flavor of an older established neighborhood will not provide the necessary resources or solu-

tions. I'm not opposed to development and building of low income apartment complexes. Just find a suitable location that would not impact well-established, defined neighborhoods.

*Dale Mostkoff
Eugene*

ANTI-VAXXERS ARE KEEPING US LOCKED DOWN

Some people think it is an infringement on their constitutional rights to ask them to wear a mask and get vaccinated. Do they feel the same way about being told to stop at stop signs and red traffic lights and to drive on the right hand side of the road, not down the middle?

These people tend to use the one in a million horror story they read about on social media to disprove the fact that we are all a million times safer getting vaccinated and wearing a mask than not. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has noticed that the people who make the most noise about opening up and getting back to normal are the ones whose anti-mask, anti-vax behavior makes getting back to normal impossible.

*Dave Crockett
Eugene*

A DEADLY TRAP

A lot of people tell me they are not going to worry about climate change because nobody knows how it will go down — and besides, it's thousands of years in the future. But we do know how it goes down. We've known a growing number of the details for the last 50 years. And we are there right now.

We need only read the geologic record, and there it is — written in stone. We do know how, and how rapidly, a runaway warming climate radically de-oxygenates and stagnates ocean currents, suddenly transforming whole continents to desert, and reducing global diversity of life by 95 percent.

We can even track the daily local weather during the many previous wipe-outs by using technology such as isotopic carbon and ico core analysis.

Fossils and stratigraphy give us an accurate record of who won and who lost each of the hundreds of bouts this planet has had with climate change, both hot and cold. In mass extinctions, cyanobacteria do fine, but nothing bigger than a bread box survives.

Life after the change generally goes from near zero to achieving a comparable level of diversity within 15 to 30 million years. Guess that leaves us out.

This looming catastrophe is bigger than a paycheck, bigger than a lifestyle, bigger than Social Security. We need to understand that "jus' puttin' one foot in front of t'other" every day has walked us into a deadly trap. And drastic climatic change can happen fast

We are burnt toast unless we get the lead out.

*Candy Davis
Cottage Grove*



Photo by Ted Shorack

And They're Off!

HORSE RACING ENDED AT PORTLAND MEADOWS IN 2019 BUT IS ENTERING THE BACK STRETCH IN SOUTHERN OREGON

By Ted Shorack

Racing programs and betting tickets flapped in a stiff breeze at Grants Pass Downs in July as several dark bay and chestnut thoroughbreds reached the starting gate for the first of eight races on the final day of the spring and summer season at the only commercial horse racing track in Oregon.

A crowd in boots and cowboy hats, young Latino families and some folks casually dressed in shorts and flip-flops, watched from the tall grandstand and from tables and chairs underneath. Most kept to the shade in the nearly 100 degree heat.

The race horses sprung out of the gate at the start, and a low rumble settled across the grounds as they came down the straightaway of the freshly groomed dirt track. Scattered cheers of support rang out from the crowd, but most watched the first few hundred yards of the 5 1/2 furlong race in quiet anticipation. A crescendo of excited screams and yelling surged among spectators at the final turn. A Kentucky-bred mare named Miss Gunny narrowly crossed the finish line first.

Some had eagerly put money on a horse without much consideration other than the thrill of it and potential to win a little cash. A gruff older man sitting at a table near the finish line said he was waiting for the last races of the day to place his bet.

Tony Boersma, co-founder of the ubiquitous coffee drive-through chain Dutch Bros, poured millions into redeveloping the once-modest racetrack at the Josephine County Fairgrounds into Grants Pass Downs. He now holds the only commercial horse racing license in the state. The backwards-hat-wearing city native and his company, TMB Racing, set out to keep the sport alive in Oregon when Portland Meadows, the historic venue built in the mid-1940s, permanently closed in 2019. The track in North Portland was later demolished.

Daily wagers at Grants Pass Downs and purses for race winners have steadily climbed in a two-year period. The track has gained notoriety for early successes, but the sport in Oregon and across the country faces a number of challenges, including a vocal opposition over the treatment of horses and poor attendance in

the stands. Their plans to draw spectators and generate more revenue with a type of betting machine have worried some tribal leaders who fear direct competition with casinos. Seven Feathers Casino Resort is about 45 miles north of the track.

Boersma did not respond to a request to comment from *Eugene Weekly* for this story.

The first races at Grants Pass Downs, after upgrades and commercial licensing in 2019, were held as racehorse deaths were drawing intense scrutiny in California. More than 40 horses died at Santa Anita Park near Los Angeles over the course of that year. The fatalities resulted in widespread pressure for that racetrack to be shut down while it investigated the causes for so many injuries leading to euthanization. Activists held protests outside the track during the Breeders' Cup.

The next year, federal prosecutors indicted more than two dozen veterinarians and trainers from around the country for administering performance-enhancing drugs to racehorses. Some involved in the widespread doping scandal have pleaded guilty to charges stemming from the scheme.

Boersma committed Grants Pass Downs to prioritizing safety for jockeys and horses, but some injuries are a near certainty given the realities of racing. Three horses were euthanized at the track during the 17-day spring and summer season. Their injuries included a fracture of the biaxial sesamoid bone in the leg, broken vertebra and two ribs, and a fractured scapula, according to Tom Everman, senior state veterinarian at the Oregon Racing Commission.

Randy Evers, president of Grants Pass Downs, says the racetrack is below the national average for horse injuries that result in deaths. "We spend a lot of money to make sure the horses are safe," he says.

Jack McGrail, executive director of the racing commission, says safety records should be evaluated over the long-term.

"We have so few races annually that an individual race meet or even race year does not provide a sufficient sample size in order to draw any conclusions," McGrail says of horse racing statewide, including smaller meets at county fairs.

Everman says the weather conditions were often ideal and the track surface was well groomed during the season of races.

"In my opinion, no conclusions can be drawn from such unrelated and unusual incidents," he says about the three deaths. "When considering racing related injuries, it would be advisable to consider statistics per 10,000 starts, or even a larger sample size, before assigning a causal relationship."

Boersma's stewardship and renovation of the track included adding a safety rail aimed at protecting jockeys and horses. The aluminum inside railing is designed to absorb the impact of a horse or rider in the event of a collision. The rails were often made of steel pipes in the past. It also has a three-foot wide plastic surface on top should a rider be thrown over their horse.

The death of a 29-year-old jockey at the Crooked River Roundup in Prineville in mid July reverberated throughout the racing community. Officials with the racing commission were unsure whether a safety rail at that track would have prevented the rider's death. The horse made its debut at Grants Pass.

Boersma widened the track in southern Oregon to allow for more horses and to reduce the potential for entanglements. He also cushioned the track with several hundred tons of sand and hired a well known superintendent to oversee surface conditions. A veterinarian examines horses prior to reaching the starting gate, Evers says, checking for discomfort that could prove debilitating during the race. Thirteen horses were scratched from competing during the most recent season after pre-race examinations.

During the season of 138 races, five horses tested at slightly higher than permitted levels of phenylbutazone or "bute," an anti-inflammatory pain reliever widely used within the industry.

Prohibited substances were not detected, Everman says. "The stewards took appropriate remedial action in all these cases."

At Grants Pass on the last day of the season, the windows for placing bets on races were often swarmed before post time. Between races the crowd looked over their racing programs, drank Coors Light or iced coffee from Dutch Bros, and counted out wrinkled dollar bills for their next wager. Spectators flocked to the track during Fourth of July weekend to watch the last races of the summer. It was the first time full capacity resumed since the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, the crowds at horse racing events around the country are dwindling, as most are broadcast and placing a bet online is an easy alternative. Off-track betting on horse races is available at nearly a dozen bars, restaurants

Continued on p. 7

slant

• Starting this fall, one small thing will be a little less stressful for young women attending in-person school: **Menstrual products will be available in every public educational facility for free**, thanks to the Oregon Legislature's passing of House Bill 3294, the Menstrual Dignity Act. Puberty is stressful enough; making it easier to acquire a basic need is a good thing. On that note, donating basics like soap, socks, menstrual products and deodorant to nonprofits helping the homeless is never a bad idea.



Photo by Gage Skidmore

• **We're watching Sept. 14 to see what California voters do in the recall election of Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom.** It is important not only to Californians but also to Oregonians and the rest of the country. Our bet is on Newsom winning, but that depends on how many voters feel strongly enough about him to get out and vote. Newsom may not be as charismatic as Arnold Schwarzenegger or as experienced as Jerry Brown, but he's been the leader the Golden State has needed. Tell your Cali friends to get out there and vote because the alternative could be the ultra-conservative Larry Elder.

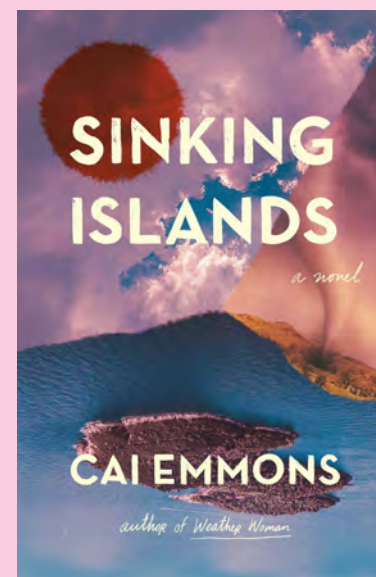
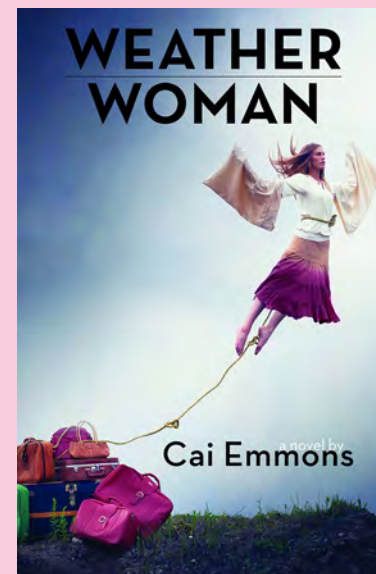
• There are valid overlaps between animal pharmaceuticals and human ones. But let's be clear: **Randomly**

taking horse wormers with no idea about dosage or use is a bad idea. Ivermectin is also used as a heart-worm pill for dogs. You might like the beef flavored tabs better than the apple-flavored mouth numbing paste used for horses, but you still need to consult a real doctor, not FOX or the internet.

• **Sen. Ron Wyden was fundraising in Lane County last weekend**, Aug. 28 and 29, for his re-election campaign in 2022. He has some concern that Portland voters are in a mood to defeat all elected officials, but it's hard to imagine that Portland voters, as frustrated as they are with local government and policing in the City of Roses, would risk losing the powerful chair of the Senate Committee on Finance and an overall champion of liberal causes.

• **What we are reading:** Cai Emmons' books *Weather Woman* and *Sinking Islands*. (See the story about Emmons in this issue.) The local writer brings a sort of magical realism to climate change in her novels. With the world in chaos from Afghanistan to Haiti to our own wildfires, we need to ponder some supernatural powers to fix things.

• **Correction:** In "A New Dawn" (8/19) about Dawn Lesley, who's challenging Lane County Commissioner Jay Bozievich for his west Lane County seat, *Eugene Weekly* mistakenly reported that Commissioner Jay Bozievich voted against the 2021 county budget because it was going to the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC). He actually voted against the budget because it didn't have \$80,000 for the Association of O&C Counties (AOCC), a pro-timber lobby group. Sorry Jay, we don't like your politics but we do try to be accurate, and we appreciate you finally began to encourage people to vaccinate and mask up.





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BEER FOR BREAKFAST

AND MIMOSAS TOO!



Better Living Room
BY NINKASI BREWING CO.

SCAN FOR BRUNCH MENU AND RESERVATIONS

Continued from p. 5

and bowling alleys, including Emerald Lanes in Eugene and Ten Down Bowling in Roseburg.

Most of the races at Grants Pass Downs appear on the cable network TVG. Evers says races are held on Monday and Tuesday to avoid being overshadowed by larger venues around the country during the weekend. Wagers, also known as the “handle,” placed on races in and outside of the state totaled more than \$8 million at OTB locations from January through June this year, according to the racing commission.

The handle for races during the spring and summer season at Grants Pass totaled nearly \$7 million. The daily average was more than \$400,000. The purses averaged about \$60,000 each race day. Evers hopes to eventually dole out \$120,000 per day. The track dispersed more than \$1 million in purses for the 138 races.

It’s still a challenge when looking ahead, Evers, the president at Grants Pass, says. Most events, other than the Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, struggle to maintain consistent attendance.

“We would love for people to come from around the country, but right now that’s a little bit of a dream,” he says.

Boersma is building a 35,000-square-foot gaming and entertainment center adjacent to the track that will likely compete with tribal casinos for gambling dollars and can offset costs for racing operations. A short drive from the racetrack, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indi-

ans operates Seven Feathers Casino Resort.

Named The Flying Lark after a famous thoroughbred from Oregon, it could open as early as this December and boast up to 250 “historic horse racing” or HHR machines, a betting terminal that some consider too similar to slots. They were approved by state lawmakers in 2013.

“That’s the economic engine that’s going to save horse racing,” Evers says about the Flying Lark. “It’s very expensive to maintain the track and the personnel you need.”

The historic horse racing machines allow visitors to bet on races that have already taken place. The horses and race winners are obscured from players when placing their wager. The video terminals are found at racetracks nationwide in various states and were offered at Portland Meadows.

The Kentucky Supreme Court ruled in 2020 that some HHR machines did not fit the state definition of pari-mutuel wagering, which pools bets together and is the widespread method in horse racing. A bill signed into law this year adjusted language to expressly legalize HHR machines.

During the 2021 legislative session, gambling policy in Oregon was a frequent topic. State lawmakers attempted to create a task force that would make regulatory recommendations moving forward. They also sought to halt new lottery games that can be played on mobile devices or computers. The bill failed to make it out of the Joint Ways and Means committee.

The governor, however, signed Senate Bill 165, which requires wagering on historic horse racing to be done at the track and prohibits it on a mobile phone or other electronic device including computers. Grants Pass Downs lobbied for a section of the bill that allows fixed payments to various horse racing industry associations and the racing commission rather than a percentage allocation from HHR machines. They argued revenue collected from the machines is unpredictable with slim margins compared to betting on live horse racing or at OTBs.

Advocates concerned about problem gambling were in favor of amendments restricting wagering on historic races to machines at Grants Pass Downs and not online.

The amendments were important to state Rep. Marty Wilde as well, who is chair of the House Committee on General Government, which conducted public hearings on the bill.

“The ones in person I’m a little less concerned about,” he says about HHR machines. “If you have to go somewhere to do it, there are staff theoretically monitoring it. And you can’t do it all night necessarily.”

The Flying Lark is located next to the parking lot of the racetrack. In July, the site was fenced off and filled with heavy-duty construction equipment. The center is expected to include a sports bar, a family restaurant and a banquet area. Grants Pass Downs will open its fall season on Sept. 20 and end on Nov. 9. ■

Someone Take the Wheel

LANE TRANSIT DISTRICT IS STRUGGLING TO HIRE AND RETAIN BUS OPERATORS AS WAGES AND STABILITY CAN BE FOUND ELSEWHERE

By Henry Houston

The retail and hospitality industry aren’t the only industries that are desperately seeking employees. Lane Transit District is experiencing a shortage of bus operators and difficulty in recruiting new hires.

The agency says it’s a part of a national trend and due to bus operators retiring during COVID-19. The shortage has resulted in LTD stopping some routes and programs.

Local Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) board executive member Bill Bradley says the shortage is actually because there are more stable and competitive wage job opportunities elsewhere, and that bus operators at LTD are feeling overworked. But he says it’s an opportunity for the union and LTD to revisit the wages and benefits to make the job more attractive for a younger generation before LTD has an even bigger shortage from retirements.

Before COVID-19, LTD spokesperson Pat Walsh says the agency had a fairly full roster, but that changed as the pandemic went on. “With retirements and other things, we’re in a position where we have to find new operators,” he says. “It’s been within the last year or so

that our market has caught up with the rest of the nation with the shortage.”

Bradley, on the other hand, says retirement is just one reason why some operators left LTD, and that there’s more to the story. “I’ve been a union officer at LTD since 2012, and I’ve never seen the amount of voluntary separation that I have now. I’ve got an active list of members seeking other work.”

When the pandemic first started and LTD didn’t know how its finances would be impacted by a shutdown economy, the agency decided to lay off 40 bus operators as well as administrative staff, Bradley says. And that’s something that transit agencies similar to LTD didn’t do, he says.

When bus operators were called back to work, some of them decided to find jobs elsewhere, he says, driving cement trucks or logging trucks. A commercial driver’s license is a golden ticket, he adds, and there’s a high demand for drivers everywhere right now.

Bradley says the bus operators who returned to LTD are now experiencing the effects of LTD’s labor shortage as it slowly expands bus services.

“They’re working longer hours in a day, and sometimes at six days a week. You can volunteer to work a seventh day, but you could be required to give up your sixth day,” Bradley says. “You don’t know what you’re going to be working tomorrow until 4 o’clock today.”

That environment is difficult for bus operators, Bradley adds. They used to work five days a week and had the option to take on extra shifts only if they wanted. Since the more senior bus operators aren’t taking extra shifts to limit exposure to COVID-19, those are also falling on the new hires, “so they’re getting a double whammy,” he says.

LTD’s per day boarding numbers are low compared to pre-pandemic data. Currently, LTD has 15,000 average riders per day, compared to 35,000 per day previously, Walsh says.

But the agency is planning to increase service as fall terms begin at University of Oregon and Lane Community College. Bradley says LTD wants to move up to 80 percent of pre-COVID-19 service levels. And if that happens, he adds, some bus operators will continue to work six days a week.

But the bus operator shortage has affected LTD’s programs.

“We’re looking at what it is we can provide in terms

of service,” Walsh says. “We’ll continue with the service we provide now. They’re will be service adjustments in September, but in terms of programs like Transit Tomorrow and MovingAhead, those are on hold for right now.”

Walsh adds that the LTD Board of Directors decided to temporarily suspend work on Transit Tomorrow, an LTD plan to increase bus frequency, adding the number of routes with 15 minute services, for example. MovingAhead is a city of Eugene and LTD collaboration to increase mass transit.

Before layoffs, LTD had 190 bus operators, Bradley says, and had plans to bring on 20 more to follow through with plans of expanding service under the Transit Tomorrow program. Currently, LTD has 175 bus operators.

Bradley says he’s optimistic that LTD will work with the union to address retention and recruitment issues. ATU and LTD agreed to extend their contract bargaining until June 30, 2022, because of the pandemic. In order to make the transit agency an employer of choice again, he says the union may consider pursuing contract bargaining early.

The average LTD bus operator is 50 years old, Bradley says. “There’s going to be a retirement wave that’s coming,” he adds. “But we’ve gotta plan for how we’re going to refill these jobs and be attractive to a younger generation.”

And to do that, LTD has to address work-life balance, wages and a benefits package that isn’t enough to bring on new hires, he says. Before the pandemic, when LTD would open the application process for hiring new bus operators, there would be hundreds of applicants, Bradley says. But now? “We can’t even fill a class of 10,” he says. The first class only had five people, and the second class only seven, he adds.

Bradley says a possible reason why LTD is having a tough time recruiting is related to a changing world. In addition to wage competition from other CDL-related driving jobs, he says retail and restaurant workplaces are also offering higher wages, as well as likely to provide more of a work-life balance for their employees.

“Right now we’re certainly not the employer of choice that we once were,” Bradley says. “It’s going to take ATU and LTD working together to solve that.” ■

This story is a part of Eugene Weekly’s reporting series on the labor movement in Oregon, funded by the Wayne L. Morse Center for Law and Politics.

Meet the Queen

EUGENE'S NEWEST SLUG QUEEN GALAXIA COSMOS IS OUT OF THIS WORLD

By Taylor Perse

Helen Being — aka Queen Galaxia Cosmos — dreamed of being crowned the Eugene SLUG queen ever since they were eight years old.

Being first saw a SLUG queen (Society of the Legitimization of the Ubiquitous Gastropod) during the Eugene Celebration Parade they attended as a kid. Being doesn't remember who was crowned SLUG queen that year, but was touched that the city would rally behind someone who was so different and silly.

"I remember feeling like that is something I could do. I was fat as a kid and weird," Being says. "I just felt 'othered,' and then I realized that creativity and charm and silliness were things the entire city of Eugene valued."

Twenty-eight years later, Being's dreams came true when they were crowned queen at the 2021 SLUG Queen Coronation, the first one held in-person after going virtual during the COVID-19 pandemic. The annual summer competition, known for its silly approach to pageantry where locals compete to become the new "raining" queen, was held on Aug. 13.

Several hundred people gathered at the Park Blocks for the event, and most wore masks. A live band accompanied the transitions as each of the six wanna-be queens took to the stage in an attempt to woo the judges and impress the crowd.

When Being took the stage, they appeared as a slug from outer space — specifically a slug from the planet Gastropoda in the Mollusca Nebula.

The costume had about 800 pieces, Being says. The two main pieces were an aquamarine spandex suit they had specially designed, and a flying saucer disc worn as a skirt. Its core is made from three large hula hoops attached to two smaller ones. Orange flowers and flames came out of the bottom of the skirt. From there Being used a mix of cardboard, zip ties and an abundance of glue.

"I love retro futurism. That's an aesthetic. I've always been into science fiction," says Being, who sports aquamarine hair matching the costume.

In their free time, Being is involved with Eugene Trek Theater, a community theater group that performs Star Trek episodes and other science fiction stories in parks and other local venues. Being, who is also known as Helen Shepherd, also owns Spectrum, Eugene's LGBTQ+ bar.

Being first announced their intention to run for SLUG queen back in October 2019. But the pandemic put those plans on hold. Being competed in the virtual 2020 competition, but Old Queen Jenette Kime was again crowned because the pandemic had shortened her rain.

But Being wasn't giving up. They spent the months leading up to this year's events meeting and bribing old queens, a tradition of the SLUG queen competition.

"I loved making the bribes," Being says. "It gave me something to focus on during the pandemic." Being adds they made little purses in the shape of slugs, face masks and stoles featuring slugs.

Being says winning the contest means a lot to them. Being identifies as genderqueer and says they are hormonally intersex.



Photo by Todd Cooper



Photo courtesy Helen Being

"I struggled with accepting myself for a long time and more recently, I let my beard grow," Being says, adding later, "It took me a couple of years to really grow to the point where I love my beard. Now I think it makes me more attractive."

For the talent portion of the contest, Being spent three minutes talking through different feelings felt in the last year. Their speech addressed the sad reality of the world we live in, but also added a bit of humor.

"We are all here tonight despite our fear and sadness because we believe in the healing power of silliness," Being said. "We know if we are brave, vulnerable and compassionate, we can do anything together. So let's be silly and repeat after me: 'Ha! Ha! Ha!'"

And the crowd repeated the "ha has," laughing at the fear and sadness.

Overall, Being says they wanted to embrace a persona of not being scared of feelings. After the talent portion and answering a question from an old queen, Being was crowned the winner. They say they were shocked to win.

"It feels really nice. To know that I guess that my love for Eugene is not unrequited. I've had enough unrequited love affairs in my life. I don't need any more," Being says. "I want to pour my heart and soul into loving Eugene. And Eugene stepped up and said, 'Yeah, we love you, too.'"

Now queen, Being says they look forward to organizing events and appearing at in-person ones, which they know is dependent on COVID-19. It is also common for SLUG queens to represent or advocate for a specific cause or organization. Being says they don't have one specific one yet, but is already speaking on issues of gender queerness and being intersex.

"So it's still early to know exactly what my legacy will be or how I'll be able to use this platform. But I am having conversations, you know, mostly so far about art, about ways that I can bring art and hospitality to Eugene," Being says. ■

If you donate \$20 to TransPonder, Community Veterinary Center or Trek Theater, Helen Being will send you a silly or inspirational video. Contact Helen Being at OuterSpaceSlug@gmail.com.

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PHOTO COURTESY LANE ARTS COUNCIL

what's happening

Salsa music lights up Owen Rose Garden on Friday evenings, where dancers, DJs and instructors come together to bring Latinx dance to the public in Eugene. This weekly recurring event, Bailamos, is part of **Fiesta Cultural**, Lane County's largest annual celebration of Latino/a/x arts and heritage. The celebration brings out the vibrant work of Latinx artists, giving the whole community a chance to learn about Latinx heritage here in Lane County. Catch another Friday in-person event of the four-month-long celebration — a pop-up featuring a community art activity to join in on with graphic designer Jen Hernandez, tacos and burritos to taste from Morelos Taqueria, and artwork and books to explore by Latinx artists and writers. This pop-up event at the First Friday ArtWalk also features illustrations by Honduran artist Erick Wonderly Varela, whose lively, spirited paintings are the subject of Lane Arts Council's Artist Happy Hour this week. Fiesta Cultural's other digital events include Puerto Rican cooking lessons from Sara Cintron and Toña Aguilar's Bilingual Storytime, both of which can be accessed anytime on Eugene Public Library's YouTube.

The Fiesta Cultural Pop Up takes place from 5:30 to 8 pm Friday, Sept. 3, at Kesey Square and The Sreatery. Owen Rose Garden is located at 300 N. Jefferson St. **FREE**. Details for all Fiesta Cultural events from September to December can be found at LaneArts.org/Fiesta-Cultural. — *Jenna Comstock*

GENERAL

LISTINGS ARE FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

ART EXHIBITS

A Retrospective of Cuban Printmaker Belkis Ayon (thru Sept. 5), Schnitzer Museum. \$5.

James Kirk - A Celebration of Life (thru Sept. 5), River Gallery, 184 S. Main Street, Independence.

From the Stave to the Dowel: Asian Hanging Scrolls (thru Sept. 18), White Lotus Gallery.

Featured Artist: Rich Bergeman; Window Artist, Sheryl Thompson (thru Sept. 30), River Gallery, Independence.

Community Wide Analog Photography Show (thru Oct. 8), The O'Brien Photo Gallery.

OSLP Art Exhibit (thru Oct. 31), Eugene Public library, second floor. More info at 541-682-5450 or Eugene-or.gov/library.

Ro Prayer Flag Redux (thru Oct. 31), Donald R. Dexter, Jr., DMD, LLC.

The Black Lives Matter Art Exhibit (thru Nov. 21), Schnitzer Museum.

Studio 7 reopening. More info at Studio 7 Facebook. Schnitzer Museum of Art, JSMA.UOregon.edu.

FILM

Films at Broadway Metro. More info at BroadwayMetro.com.

Heritage Broadcasting Service (Eugene) has 150 titles to choose from, including recent additions *The Last Dance*, *The Dune People*, and *The Forgotten Refuge*. More info at HeritageTac.org.

GATHERINGS

AI-Anon meetings throughout Eugene. More info at AlaNonLaneor.us.

Chess & Chai daily at International Brew, 876 Lawrence St.

Job Search Help by appointment at the Eugene Public Library. Call 541-686-7985 to schedule.

HEALTH

YMCA Choose-Your-Own Fitness Adventure: Oregon Edition (thru Sept. 13). More info at EugeneYMCA.org.

Zoom workout classes at CrossFit. Email Contact@CrossFitIntensify.com for more info.

Workout classes at IAmForeverStrong.com.

Workout classes at Evolve Fitness Studios. More info at Facebook.

Workout & Yoga Classes at West Lane Fitness in Veneta. More info at WestLane-Fitness.com.

Yoga & Workout Classes at Yoga West Eugene. More info at YogaWestEugene.com

Yoga classes at EugeneYoga.us; WildLightYogaCenter.com; EugeneMudra.com; HotYogaEugeneBalanced.com; YogaEugene.com.

All levels of yoga (chair, advanced, yoga for health care workers and children) at Vista Wellness Ctr. Visit VistaPsych.com for more info.

KIDS/FAMILY

Bilingual Story Walks w/ Eugene Public Library: *The Day You Begin / El Dia En Que Descubres Quien* in the park at Petersen Barn Community Ctr. *Alma and How Do Dinosaurs Go to School? / Como Van a la Escuela Los Dinosaurios?* at Willakenzie Park. More info at 541-682-5450 or at Eugene-or.gov/library.

In-person Storytimes w/ Eugene Public Library are now underway. RSVP is one week before each event. Register at Eugene-or.gov/library. More info at 541-682-5450.

LITERARY ARTS

Writers & Wine 2021: Alaskan author features new book (thru Oct. 1). Benefit for Fern Ridge Library. More info at FriFoundation.org.

RECREATION

Card games at High Mountain Poker. More info at 541-485-0090 and at HighMountainPoker.com.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2

ARTS/CRAFTS

Explore Oregon (thru Sunday), 11am-4pm. RSVP & more info at MNCH.Uoregon.edu.

Oregon—Where Past is Present (thru Sunday), 11am-4pm. RSVP & more info at MNCH.Uoregon.edu.

Artistic Encounters, noon-1pm, Kesey Square, bringing a sense of unexpected wonder and whimsy to downtown Eugene by presenting unique artistic experiences.

HEALTH

NAMI Family Support Zoom Group @ NAMILane.org. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Healing through Discussion Support Group (via Zoom), 9:30-11am, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Hearing Voices and Different Realities Discussion and Support Group, 1-2:30pm, Alton Baker Park. More info at DifferentMinds.us.

The Art of Nature, 6-7:30pm, Museum of Natural and Cultural History. \$15-20. More info at MNCH.Uoregon.edu..

MUSIC

Wormhole w/ Gladkill, dubstep, 10pm The Big Dirty. Ticket info at TheBigDirty.live.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

Quality Trivia, 6:30-8pm, Viking Braggot Brewery on Commercial St.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

Guided Lamrim Retreat (thru Sept. 6), 9am-7:15pm, MeditationInOregon.org. \$10.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 3

ART/CRAFT

Fiesta Cultural Pop Up at the First Friday ArtWalk, 5:30-8pm, Kesey Square.

Robin Levin — Painting the Prayers in My Heart, w/ spotlight artist: Erik Roggenveen, 5:30pm, The New Zone Gallery.

GATHERINGS

Food Not Bombs, cooking starts at noon (email EugeneFoodNotBombs@gmail.com for location), serves at 4pm at Park Blocks, E. 8th Ave. & Oak St. next to fountains.

MindFreedom Oregon: Zoom to Human Rights & Mental Health!, 2-3pm. Email Mf-oregon@aci.info for more information.

KIDS/FAMILY

Family Fun in the Sun, 11am-4pm. Register at MNCH.UOregon.edu.

LEGO® Fidget Cube Make and Take, 5-6pm, Bricks & Minifigs Eugene.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Expression Through Art (via Zoom), 4-5pm. More info at HealingAttention.org. \$15.

MUSIC

RIFFLE, covers, 6pm, Bennett Vineyards.

Inner Limits, funk & rock, 6:30pm, Silvan Ridge Winery.

Jordnmoody, bass, 9pm, The Big Dirty. Ticket info at TheBigDirty.live.

RECREATION

Bingo w/ Elliot and Chad, 7:30pm, Viking Braggot Brewery on Commercial St.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation (instruction provided), 7pm. Zoom only at BlueCliffZen.org.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 4

ART/CRAFT

Go Ducks! Weekends, 10am-4pm, Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

FARMERS MARKETS

Saturday Lane County Farmers Market, 9am-3pm,

5th Ave. between High & Oak streets.

Spencer Creek Growers Market, 10am-2pm, 86013 Lorane Hwy.

DANCE

Ballet in the Vineyard, 6pm, Silvan Ridge Winery. More info at BalletFantastique.org. \$25.

KIDS/FAMILY

Family Fun in the Sun, 11am-4pm, Museum of Natural and Cultural History. RSVP at MNCH.UOregon.edu.

LEGO® Fidget Cube Make and Take, 5-6pm, Bricks & Minifigs Eugene.

MARKETS

Eugene Saturday Market, 10am-4pm, Park Blocks.

MUSIC

Terra Nova Trio, 5pm. Ticket info at ASquareDarts.com.

Brothers Reed, 6:30pm, McKenzie General Store.

Gerry Rempel Trio (jazz, rock, blues), 6:30pm, Friendly Gardens.

High Step Society, 8pm, Sessions. \$20-25.

ON THE AIR

The Dr. Yeti Show, 10pm-midnight, KOFC, 92.5 FM or streamed at KOFC.org.

The Institute of Spectra Sound, 10pm-midnight, KEPW, 97.3 FM

SPECTATOR SPORTS

College Football: Oregon vs. Fresno State, 11am, Autzen Stadium. Tickets at GoDucks.com.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5

GATHERINGS

Burrito Brigade, 11am-4pm. More info at BurritoBrigade.org.

Weekly give-away of free stuff w/ Ward Ricker, 11am, Rent-A-Shop Maxi Storage, Unit 187. Call 541-650-4662.

HEALTH

Occupy Medical, noon-4pm, 1717 Centennial Blvd, Spfd.

MARKETS

Whiteaker Community Market, 11am-4pm, 4th & Blair at Scobert Park.

MUSIC

2nd Annual Rainy Day Blues Festival (ft. Atomic 44's, Kara Grainger, Hank Shreve Band, Brian James, Howlin' Dogma & Walker T. Ryan) Atomic 44's, Kara Grainger, Hank Shreve Band, Brian James, Howlin' Dogma & Walker T. Ryan, The Village Green, Cottage Grove.

The Traceys (soul), 1pm, Lavelle Vineyards.

Adam's Road, 6pm, First Baptist Church.

RECREATION

Brewers Guild Bingo, 3-6pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 4:30pm, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

Eugene Insight Meditation via Zoom, 6:30pm, Eugene-Insight.com.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 6

LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. FREE-\$3.

LITERARY ARTS

Rainbow Reads, young adult literature for queer teens, by queer teens and/or about queer teens, 6-8pm, WordCrafters.org.

MUSIC

RIFFLE, covers, 1pm, Lavelle Vineyards.

ON THE AIR

"Swervin' In My Lane," 4-6pm, KOFC, 92.7 FM

RECREATION

Eugene Brews Cruise 5K, noon, Whiteaker Community Head Start Ctr. Register at Level32Racing.com.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 7

FARMERS MARKETS

Tuesday Farmers Market, 10am-2pm, Park Blocks, 8th Avenue and Oak Street.

GATHERINGS

North Eugene Toastmasters, 7-8:15am. More info at NorthEugene.ToastMasters.org.

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Weekly Art Figure Sessions, 6-9pm, The Church, 3rd & Monroe.

KIDS/FAMILY

In-person Family Storytime in July and August, 10:30am, downtown Eugene Public Library.

Babywearing & Bailando: Dance w/ your Baby in the Park!, 5:30-7pm, Island Park, Spfd.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Exploring Ekphrasis, 6-7:30pm. More info at WordCrafters.org.

Mystic Yoga, 6:30-8:30pm, Sweet Cheeks Winery. \$20.

LITERARY ARTS

TransPonder Book Club, 5-6pm, TransponderCommunity.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Everett Aquasox, 7:05pm, PK Park. Tickets at MiLB/Eugene.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 8

DANCE

Outdoor interactive dance w/ #instaballet, 10:30-11:30am, Springfield Public Library.

FILM

Movie Appreciation Group (A Room With A View), 1-3pm, Willamalane Adult Activity Ctr.

GATHERINGS

House & Senate Redistricting Committees (4th District), 11am, OregonLegislature.gov.

KIDS/FAMILY

Babywearing & Bailando: Dance w/ your Baby in the Park!, 11:30am-1pm, Emerald Park Community Ctr.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. \$1.

Nia: Moving to Heal, 3-4pm, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Gender Diverse Yoga, 5:30-6:30pm, TransponderCommunity.

RECREATION

Trivia, 7-9pm, Tap & Growler.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Everett Aquasox, 7:05pm, PK Park. Tickets at MiLB/Eugene.

SPIRITUAL

Eugene Insight Meditation Community Practice Session, 10-11am, EugeneInsight.com.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 9

ARTS/CRAFTS

Explore Oregon (thru Sunday), 11am-4pm. RSVP & more info at MNCH.Uoregon.edu.

Oregon—Where Past is Present (thru Sunday), 11am-4pm. RSVP & more info at MNCH.Uoregon.edu.

Artistic Encounters, noon-1pm, Kesey Square, bringing a sense of unexpected wonder and whimsy to downtown Eugene by presenting unique artistic experiences.

GATHERINGS

Teacher Talks: Book Club, 4:15-5:30pm, WordCrafters.org.

HEALTH

NAMI Family Support Zoom Group @ NAMILane.org. RSVP at NAMILane.org.

LECTURES/CLASSES

Healing through Discussion Support Group (via Zoom), 9:30-11am, HealingAttention.org. \$15.

Lunchtime Meditation, noon-12:30pm. More info at MeditateInEugene.org. FREE-\$3.

Education Conference: The Art of Learning, 6-8:30pm. More info at Gutenberg.edu.

MUSIC

Leadbetter, rock, 6:30pm, McKenzie General Store.

The Jazz Kings: *What Will Be Will Be*, 7:30pm. Ticket info at TheShedd.org.

Future Islands w/ Hinds, synth-pop, 8pm. Ticket info at McDonaldTheatre.com.

Lespecial, heavy future groove, 8pm. Ticket info at TheBigDirty.live.

ON THE AIR

"The Point," 9am, KOPV, 88.0 FM

Thursday eKLeCtic, 8-10pm, KLCC, 89.7FM

"Arts Journal," 9pm, Comcast channel 29

RECREATION

Trivia w/ Elliot Martinez, 6-8pm, Covered Bridge Brewing Group in Cottage Grove (weather permitting; more info on Facebook).

Quality Trivia, 6:30-8pm, Viking Braggot Brewery on Commercial St.

SPECTATOR SPORTS

Eugene Emeralds vs. Everett Aquasox, 7:05pm, PK Park. Tickets at MiLB/Eugene.

SPIRITUAL

Zen Meditation, 7-8am, Blue Cliff Zen Ctr, 352 W. 12th Ave.

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A Final Chapter

A EUGENE WRITER MAKES LIFE BEAUTIFUL IN THE FACE OF FATAL ILLNESS

By Ella Hutcherson

When Eugene novelist Cai Emmons was diagnosed last winter with bulbar-onset ALS, a fatal condition with no known cure, she and her partner, Paul Calandrino, held each other and cried. One of her doctors cried along with them.

As the two exited the elevator to leave the hospital, Emmons' neurologist said to her, "I love you."

Seeking distraction, Emmons and Calandrino took a trip to the mall. She bought a sweater and he bought a candle for the hot tub.

When they checked out, the clerk asked, "How's your day going?"

Emmons does not know when she will die, but amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, sometimes called Lou Gehrig's disease, is fatal. Diagnosed with a particularly aggressive form, she already has significant problems with speech, and uses a synthetic voice on a program called The Voice Keeper to communicate. She uses a ventilator at night to help her breathe, and will soon need a feeding tube when she can no longer swallow.

But her heartbreaking diagnosis has brought a new gumption for life and all it continues to offer. Emmons and Calandrino, both writers, have made practical and emotional changes to their routines in order to enjoy every second they have left together.

"Everything has taken on an intensity that I could never have imagined," Emmons says as we sit on the patio at her home in south Eugene, her computer resting in her lap. She types her responses to questions; her words are then relayed by the automated voice in her computer. "I have had such amazing meetings with friends. People have said things to me that they wouldn't normally say. I feel as if Paul and I are really savoring small daily things. It is, in that way, a kind of gift."

Emmons and Calandrino have been living together since 2004. They married Feb. 14, 2021, 10 days after her diagnosis. Friends in the area chipped in to arrange the flowers, cake and music. The ceremony was held under a couple of canopies at their house, with two friends officiating. Planning the event took a total of six days.

Calandrino feels that, despite all of the hardships, his and Emmons' relationship has actually improved since her diagnosis.

"In every relationship there's always some kind of baggage, like cobwebs that form in your mind in between you," Calandrino says. "But it was like this complete cleaning out, immediate and unwilling, of any little problems between us. They just seemed to go away."

As talking grows more difficult for Emmons, Calandrino has had to pick up the slack in their conversations. When they go on walks or garden together, Emmons will ask him to talk about what's on his mind.

"I always feel like my thoughts are very mundane, and I'm kind of present, thinking about this rosemary bush or

my tomato plants," Calandrino says. "Her mind is much more interesting than mine."

In order to relay the contents of her fascinating mind, Calandrino says Emmons has been writing "like a demon," and that her work has taken on new forms. Emmons, who has a BA from Yale University and two MFAs from NYU and UO, was a playwright and screenwriter before she was a novelist. She has always written primarily fiction, and pulled from topics that interested her. Now, she is sharing her personal experiences with ALS, loss of voice

She still continues to write fiction, but one of her upcoming books, *Unleashed*, is what Calandrino calls "metaphorically autobiographical," because it concerns a woman who undergoes a serious and life-changing transformation. Her other in-progress book, which is not yet titled, is about a woman getting on a jury with her ex-husband. Both will be out in 2022. And a third book, *Sinking Islands*, will be published in September 2021.

Calandrino says the 2022 book releases are moving faster than usual, but that the reality of Emmons' condition has made her and her publishers feel a "sense of urgency" — Emmons to write as much as she can, and her publishers to get the work out.

Feeling the same pull to act are Emmons' loved ones. Emmons says she's been reconnecting with lots of old friends over Zoom and email during the last several months. And recently, people have been travelling from all over the country to see her and Calandrino. Their home is a revolving door of visiting friends and family.

Many people in the ALS community have come forward to help Emmons following her diagnosis. She has several ALS friends on Twitter, and a man with ALS who lives in Corvallis has come down to visit with her.

A network of friends has taken the ALS Caregiver Bootcamp, a program designed to assist people caring for someone like Emmons. And when things get worse, Calandrino will assume the role of her primary caregiver.

"Many people say they would not be able to face being in my position," Emmons says. "But you do. You just do."

In spite of everything, Calandrino and Emmons' lives have fallen into a harmonious, enjoyable routine. Every day, the two wake up together. The coffeemaker in their bedroom goes off automatically, and they drink it side by side. Emmons goes off to write and Calandrino does his own work, though he is planning to retire soon to spend more uninterrupted time with Emmons. After the working day is done, they go for a walk together or tend to their garden. Then they cook and share a meal, something they are particularly treasuring right now, as Emmons may soon be unable to eat without a feeding tube.

"We'll just keep going and enjoying every day until the end," Calandrino says.

Emmons doesn't know when the end is or what it will look like, and she is in no hurry to find out. She has constructed a beautiful existence these last few months, something that is demonstrated both by her actions and by the earnest way she speaks about the joys of being alive.

"What is striking is how strong the urge to live is," Emmons says. "I have so much to live for now, as damaged as I am. And I can imagine that feeling persisting through quite a bit." ■

Find Cai Emmons' blog at CaiEmmonsAuthor.com/blog.



CAI EMMONS

Photo by Bob Keefer

and confronting mortality through op-eds and nonfiction essays. Her op-ed "A writer (literally) loses her voice" was published in the *L.A. Times* in May, and an article about Emmons' diagnosis was published in *The Washington Post* in July. Emmons continues to post frequently on her blog, which covers a range of topics with titles like "How To Be Friends" and "Would We Write If We Were Immortal?"

"These are ideas I would probably talk away if I had the capability and would not need to write about them," Emmons says.

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Legal Notices

CIRCUIT COURT OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Estate of Kurt E. Steinke, Deceased. No. 21PB06351 PROBATE NOTICE TO CREDITORS ORS 113.155. The Personal Representative named below has been appointed as Personal Representative of this estate. Any person

having a claim against the decedent must, before the time the claim would be barred by any otherwise applicable statute of limitations, present the claim in the manner as provided in ORS Chapter 115 by serving on or mailing to the Personal Representative or the Personal Representative's attorney at the address stated below a copy of the claim and filing the original of the claim with the court. All persons having claims against the estate must present them within four months after the date of the first publication of the notice to the Personal Representative at the address designated in the notice for the presentation of claims or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Date of First Publication: 08/26/21. /s/ KENDRA PETERSON, Personal Representative, 18370 - 160th Place SE, Renton, WA 98058. Attorneys for Personal Representative: /s/ MICHAEL A. CLAXTON (OSB #961375), WALSTEAD MERTSCHING PS, Civic Center Building, Third Floor, 1700 Hudson Street, PO Box 1549, Longview, Washington 98632-7934, Telephone: (360)423-5220

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY [Probate Department] Case No. 21PB06678 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS In the Matter of the Estate of JUNE MARIE PREKKER, deceased NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on August 10, 2021, Ricky Lee Mecham was appointed and deemed qualified to act as the personal representative of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present these claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the personal representative, in care of Brian D. Cox, Attorney at Law, 142 W. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401, or they may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this estate may obtain additional information from the records of the court, or the attorney for the personal representative. DATED AND FIRST PUBLISHED: 08/26/21. /s/ Brian D. Cox, OSB #902405 Attorney for Personal Representative

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY (Probate Department) In the Matter of the Estate of Jill Helen Reimann, Deceased. Case No. 21PB06153 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. TAKE NOTICE that Travis John Reimann has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to Travis John Reimann at 3781 Pine Canyon Drive, Eugene, Oregon 97405, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the Court,



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lady and would love a family that will continue giving her positive reinforcement training. She can be nervous and barks when meeting new people but once she gets to know you, she is a very sweet girl. A volunteer said, "She is really fun to play fetch with! She is really good at it and even brings the ball back and drops it at your feet." Amora will thrive in a home where she can shine as an only pet. She prefers older kids who can keep up with her energy level and can teach her more manners. She weighs between 79 and 89 pounds and is hoping to lose some weight in her new home.

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ran the same
crossword twice.

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especially in stressful times!

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www.oregoncoasthumanesociety.org

KEVLAR

Kevlar is a six-year-old male German Shepherd with the most gorgeous dark face! He weighs 88 pounds and walks nicely on a leash. He's ready for an active home that will provide him with plenty of physical and mental exercise, like puzzles and food dispensing toys. Kevlar should be the only pet and needs a shepherd-savvy owner. If you'd like to meet Kevlar, please fill out an application on our website.



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ALICE is a beautiful and petite grey tabby female kitty about 7 years old. She is a sweet, calm, easygoing and independent cat who enjoys gentle pets and back rubs. She came to our cat

rescue group as a pregnant stray, and was lucky enough to raise her kittens in a loving foster home. Now that her kittens have found their own homes, she's ready for hers! Alice is a gorgeous girl who is looking for a patient and quiet home to bring out her loving personality. She's in good health and is spayed, vaccinated, microchipped, and negative for FIV & Felv. Her adoption fee is \$100.

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Jonesin' Crossword

BY MATT JONES
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Across

- 1 Joan who sang "I Love Rock 'n Roll"
- 5 Shaq's former college team
- 8 "Family Guy" dog
- 13 Laguna contents
- 14 Street through the middle of town
- 15 Casual eatery, in Canadian slang
- 16 Underground illegal activity that may be busted by the Feds
- 18 Passing notices
- 19 "Butter" group
- 20 Alla ____ (out time, in music)
- 21 Adorable pet
- 22 Some negatively persuasive strategies
- 24 Goes by

- 27 Some med. insurance groups
- 28 Time magazine co-founder Henry
- 29 Intuitive ability
- 30 Sports drink ender
- 33 Unrealistic comparisons for real-life couples (since problems don't often get resolved in 30 minutes)
- 38 Obnoxious person
- 39 Willful participant?
- 40 Fit one within the other
- 41 "Bye Bye Bye" group
- 'N ____
- 42 Former spelling of "Westworld" actress
- Newton's name (she restored the W in 2021)
- 45 Turned up on the beach
- 49 Otherwise named
- 50 Moby-Dick, for one
- 51 URL ending, sometimes

- 54 Dwarves' representative in the Fellowship of the Ring
- 55 Searchlight used in Gotham City
- 57 "____ Holmes" (Netflix movie)
- 58 Release, as energy
- 59 MC ____ ("Keep On, Keepin' On" rapper)
- 60 Jorts material
- 61 ____ ipsa loquitur
- 62 Yoked animals

Down

- 1 Door frame component
- 2 Multi-award-winning accomplishment
- 3 Margarine containers
- 4 Paving material
- 5 Shaq's former pro team
- 6 Pasta-draining device
- 7 Release from a leash
- 8 Food that comes in florets

"It's Symbolic"

—a trip around the keyboard.

- 9 Counterargues
- 10 Question about Biblical betrayal
- 11 High point of a house
- 12 They get counted or turned up
- 14 Jazz vocalist Carmen
- 17 Basics
- 22 Built to ____
- 23 AFL-CIO part
- 24 "Frozen" princess
- 25 "Sesame Street" human character for 25 years
- 26 Does something
- 29 To an advanced degree
- 30 Like some bourbons
- 31 Lucie Arnaz's dad
- 32 90 degrees from norte
- 34 Strident agreement
- 35 Heal up
- 36 Optimistic "David Copperfield" character
- 37 2nd or 4th of VIII?
- 41 "Okay to proceed?"
- 42 "In other words ..."
- 43 "The Planets" composer Gustav
- 44 "Whose woods these ____ think ...": Frost
- 45 Carried on, as a battle
- 46 Flaring dress style
- 47 Judge seated near Sofia
- 48 Ignominy
- 51 Stone used for chess sets
- 52 Give out some stars
- 53 Watkins ____, NY
- 56 Day-____ (fluorescent paint)

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S



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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

BY ROB BREZSNY

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): Aries poet Anna Kamienska wrote, “I’ve learned to value failed conversations, missed connections, confusions. What remains is what’s unsaid, what’s underneath. Understanding on another level of being.” In the coming weeks, I suggest you adopt her perspective as you evaluate both past and present experiences. You’re likely to find small treasures in what you’d assumed were wastelands. You may uncover inspiring clues in plot twists that initially frustrated you. Upon further examination, interludes you dismissed as unimportant or uninteresting could reveal valuable wrinkles.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): After studying your astrological omens, I’ve decided to offer you inspiration from the ancient Roman poet Catullus. I hope the extravagant spirit of his words will free you to be greedy for the delights of love and affection. Catullus wrote, “Give me a thousand kisses, then a hundred; then another thousand, then a second hundred; then yet another thousand.” I’ll add the following to Catullus’ appeal: Seek an abundance of endearing words, sweet favors and gifts, caresses and massages, help with your work and fabulous orgasms. If there’s no one in your life to provide you with such blessings, give them to yourself.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Gemini author Elif Batuman writes that the Old Uzbek language was rich in expressions about crying. There were “words for wanting to cry and not being able to, for loudly crying like thunder in the clouds, for crying in gasps, for weeping inwardly or secretly, for crying ceaselessly in a high voice, for crying in hiccups, and for crying while uttering the sound ‘hay hay.’” I recommend all of these to you in the coming days, as well as others you might dream up. Why? It’s prime time to seek the invigorating release and renewal that come from shedding tears generated by deep and mysterious feelings.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): A blogger named MythWoven imagines an “alternate universe where I literally go to school forever (for free) so I can learn about art and literature and history and languages for 100 years. No job skills. No credit requirements. No student loans. Just learning.” I have longings like hers. There’s an eternal student within me that wants to be endlessly surprised with exciting information about interesting subjects. I would love to be continually adding fresh skills and aptitudes to my repertoire. In the coming weeks, I will give free rein to that part of me. I recommend you do the same, my fellow Cancerian.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): In 2016, the International Garden Photograph of the Year depicted lush lupine flowers in New Zealand. The sea of tall purple, pink and blue blooms was praised as “an elegant symphony” and “a joy to behold.” What the judges didn’t mention is that lupine is an invasive species in New Zealand. It forces native plant species out of their habitat, which in turn drives away native animal species, including birds like the wrybill, black stilt and banded dotterel. Is there a metaphorically comparable phenomenon in your life, Leo? Problematic beauty? Some influence that’s both attractive and prickly? A wonderful thing that can also be troublesome? The coming weeks will be a favorable time to try to heal the predicament.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): “I often wonder who I am and where is my country and where do I belong and why was I ever born at all,” wrote Virgo author Jean Rhys (1890-1979). I don’t think you will be agitated by those questions during the next eight weeks, Virgo. In fact, I suspect you will feel as secure in your identity as you have in a long time. You will enjoy prolonged clarity about your role in the world, the nature of your desires, and how you should plan your life for the next two years. If for some inexplicable reason you’re not already enjoying these developments, stop what you’re doing and meditate on the probability that I am telling you the bold truth.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Several states in the U.S. have statutes prohibiting blasphemy. Saying “God damn it” could theoretically get you fined in Massachusetts, South Carolina and Wyoming. In the coming days, it’s best to proceed carefully in places like those, since you’ve been authorized by cosmic forces to curse more often and more forcefully than usual. Why? Because you need to summon vivid and intense protests in the face of influences that may be inhibiting and infringing on your soul’s style. You have a poetic license to rebel against conventions that oppress you.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): Everyone dreams at least three dreams per night. In a year, your subconscious mind generates over 1,100 dreams. About this remarkable fact, novelist Mila Kundera writes, “Dreaming is not merely an act of coded communication. It is also an aesthetic activity, a game that is a value in itself. To dream about things that have not happened is among humanity’s deepest needs.” I bring this to your attention, Scorpio, because September is Honor Your Dreams Month. To celebrate, I suggest the following experiments. 1. Every night before sleep, write down a question you’d like your dreams to respond to. 2. Keep a notebook by your bed and transcribe at least one dream each time you sleep. 3. In the morning, have fun imagining what the previous night’s dreams might be trying to communicate to you. 4. Say prayers of gratitude to your dreams, thanking them for their provocative, entertaining stories.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): In her autobiography *Changing*, Sagittarian actor Liv Ullmann expresses grief about how she and a loved one failed to communicate essential truths to each other. I propose we regard her as your anti-role model for the rest of 2021. Use her error as your inspiration. Make emotionally intelligent efforts to talk about unsaid things that linger like ghostly puzzles between you and those you care about.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): “I could do with a bit more excess,” writes author Joanne Harris. “From now on I’m going to be immoderate — and volatile,” she vows. “I shall enjoy loud music and lurid poetry. I shall be rampant.” Let me be clear, Capricorn: I’m not urging you to be immoderate, volatile, excessive and rampant every day for the rest of your long life. But I think you will generate health benefits and good fortune if you experiment with that approach in the coming weeks. Can you think of relatively sane, sensible ways to give yourself this salubrious luxury?

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): While wading through the internet’s wilder terrain, I found a provocative quote alleged to have been uttered by the ancient Greek philosopher Socrates. He supposedly said, “My ultimate goal is to look totally hot, but not be unapproachable.” I confess that in the past I have sometimes been fooled by fake quotes, and I suspect this is one. Still, it’s amusing to entertain the possibility that such an august personage as Socrates, a major influencer of Western culture, might say something so cute and colloquial. Even if he didn’t actually say it, I like the idea of blending ancient wisdom with modern insights, seriousness with silliness, thoughtful analysis with good fun. In accordance with astrological omens, I recommend you experiment with comparable hybrids in the coming weeks. (PS: One of your goals should be to look totally hot, but not be unapproachable.)

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): “If you don’t know what you want,” writes Piscean novelist Chuck Palahniuk, “you end up with a lot you don’t.” Very true! And right now, it’s extra important to keep that in mind. During the coming weeks, you’ll be at the peak of your ability to attract what you want and need. Wouldn’t you prefer to gather influences you really desire — as opposed to those for which you have mild or zero interest? Define your wants and needs very precisely.

Homework. What’s your greatest blessing? Newsletter@FreeWillAstrology.com

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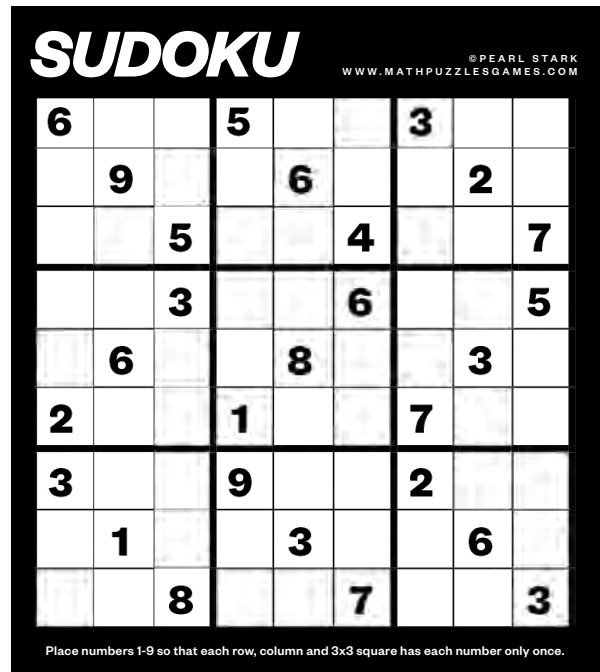
classifieds

the personal representative, or the lawyer for the personal representative, Lawrence F. Cooley. Dated and first published on August 19, 2021. /s/ Travis John Reimann. PETITIONER: Travis John Reimann, 1665 Irving Road, Eugene, Oregon 97402, Telephone: 541.914.7035, Facsimile: N/A. LAWYER FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE: Lawrence F. Cooley OSB 680312, 3781 Pine Canyon Drive, Eugene, Oregon 97405, Telephone: 541.686.2231, Facsimile: N/A, eugenelawyer@aol.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Juvenile Department In the Matter(s) of ARIEA JUNE FETTER, LILIE LEE FETTER, Children. Case No. 21JU02536, Case No. 21JU02537 PUBLISHED SUMMONS TO: Michael Scott Fetter in the NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: Petitions have been filed asking the court to terminate your parental rights to the above-named children for the purpose of placing the children for adoption. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PERSONALLY APPEAR BEFORE the Lane County Court at 2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Eugene, Oregon 97401, on the 7th day of October, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.; to admit or deny the allegations of the petition and to personally appear at any subsequent court-ordered hearing. YOU MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY IN THE COURTROOM ON THE DATE AND AT THE TIME LISTED ABOVE. AN ATTORNEY MAY NOT ATTEND THE HEARING IN YOUR PLACE. THEREFORE, YOU MUST APPEAR EVEN IF YOUR ATTORNEY ALSO APPEARS. This summons is published pursuant to the order of the circuit court judge of the above - entitled court, dated August 24, 2021. The order directs that this summons be published once each week for three consecutive weeks, making three publications in all, in a published newspaper of general circulation in Lane County. Date of first publication: 09/02/21. Date of last publication: 09/16/21. NOTICE READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY If you do not appear personally before the court as directed above, then you must appear on October 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at the same address listed above. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR PERSONALLY BEFORE THE COURT OR DO NOT APPEAR AT ANY SUBSEQUENT COURT-ORDERED HEARING, the court may proceed in your absence without further notice and TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS to the above-named child either ON THE DATE SPECIFIED IN THIS SUMMONS OR ON A FUTURE DATE and may make such orders and take such action as authorized by law. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS (1) YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY IN THIS MATTER. If you are currently represented by an attorney, CONTACT YOUR ATTORNEY IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTICE. Your previous attorney may not be representing you in this matter. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY and you meet the state’s financial guidelines, you are entitled to have an attorney appointed for you at state expense. TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT OF AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU AT STATE EXPENSE, YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY CONTACT the Lane Juvenile Department at 2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Eugene, OR 97401 phone number (541) 682-4700, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for further information. IF YOU WISH TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY, please retain one as soon as possible and have the attorney present at the above hearing. If you need help finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar’s Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH YOUR ATTORNEY AND TO KEEP YOUR ATTORNEY ADVISED OF YOUR WHEREABOUTS. (2) If you contest the petition, the court will schedule a hearing on the allegations of the petition and order you to appear personally and may schedule

other hearings related to the petition and order you to appear personally. IF YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR, YOU MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY IN THE COURTROOM, UNLESS THE COURT HAS GRANTED YOU AN EXCEPTION IN ADVANCE UNDER ORS 419B.918 TO APPEAR BY OTHER MEANS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TELEPHONIC OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS. AN ATTORNEY MAY NOT ATTEND THE HEARING(S) IN YOUR PLACE. PETITIONER’S ATTORNEY S. Simon Lee, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 975 Oak Street, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401, Phone: (541)686-7973. ISSUED this 25th day of August, 2021. Issued by: /s/ S. Simon Lee, OSB #161369, Assistant Attorney General

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Juvenile Department In the Matter(s) of ARIEA JUNE FETTER, LILIE LEE FETTER, MICHAEL EDWARD FETTER, Children. Case No. 21JU02535, Case No. 21JU02538, Case No.



21JU02539 PUBLISHED SUMMONS TO: Samantha Lee Watson in the NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: Petitions have been filed asking the court to terminate your parental rights to the above-named children for the purpose of placing the children for adoption. YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PERSONALLY APPEAR BEFORE the Lane County Court at 2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Eugene, Oregon 97401, on the 7th day of October, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.; to admit or deny the allegations of the petition and to personally appear at any subsequent court-ordered hearing. YOU MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY IN THE COURTROOM ON THE DATE AND AT THE TIME LISTED ABOVE. AN ATTORNEY MAY NOT ATTEND THE HEARING IN YOUR PLACE. THEREFORE, YOU MUST APPEAR EVEN IF YOUR ATTORNEY ALSO APPEARS. This summons is published pursuant to the order of the circuit court judge of the above - entitled court, dated August 24, 2021. The order directs that this summons be published once each week for three consecutive weeks, making three publications in all, in a published newspaper of general circulation in Lane County. Date of first publication: 09/02/21. Date of last publication: 09/16/21. NOTICE READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY If you do not appear personally before the court as directed above, then you must appear on October 21, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at the same address listed above. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR PERSONALLY BEFORE THE COURT OR DO NOT APPEAR AT ANY SUBSEQUENT COURT-ORDERED HEARING,

the court may proceed in your absence without further notice and TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS to the above-named child either ON THE DATE SPECIFIED IN THIS SUMMONS OR ON A FUTURE DATE and may make such orders and take such action as authorized by law. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS (1) YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY IN THIS MATTER. If you are currently represented by an attorney, CONTACT YOUR ATTORNEY IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTICE. Your previous attorney may not be representing you in this matter. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY and you meet the state’s financial guidelines, you are entitled to have an attorney appointed for you at state expense. TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT OF AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU AT STATE EXPENSE, YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY CONTACT the Lane Juvenile Department at 2727 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Eugene, OR 97401 phone number (541) 682-4700, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for

further information. IF YOU WISH TO HIRE AN ATTORNEY, please retain one as soon as possible and have the attorney present at the above hearing. If you need help finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon State Bar’s Lawyer Referral Service at (503) 684-3763 or toll free in Oregon at (800) 452-7636. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH YOUR ATTORNEY AND TO KEEP YOUR ATTORNEY ADVISED OF YOUR WHEREABOUTS. (2) If you contest the petition, the court will schedule a hearing on the allegations of the petition and order you to appear personally and may schedule other hearings related to the petition and order you to appear personally. IF YOU ARE ORDERED TO APPEAR, YOU MUST APPEAR PERSONALLY IN THE COURTROOM, UNLESS THE COURT HAS GRANTED YOU AN EXCEPTION IN ADVANCE UNDER ORS 419B.918 TO APPEAR BY OTHER MEANS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TELEPHONIC OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEANS. AN ATTORNEY MAY NOT ATTEND THE HEARING(S) IN YOUR PLACE. PETITIONER’S ATTORNEY S. Simon Lee, Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, 975 Oak Street, Suite 200, Eugene, OR 97401, Phone: (541)686-7973. ISSUED this 25th day of August, 2021. Issued by: /s/ S. Simon Lee, OSB # 161369, Assistant Attorney General



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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY Probate Department In the Matter of the Estate of: FRANK J. LITKEI, Deceased. Case No.21PB06288 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS GIVEN that Christine Ann Litkei has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative c/o Robert Cole Tozer, Attorney at Law, 975 Oak St., Suite 615, Eugene, OR 97401, (541)345-0795, within four months of the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain addition information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the personal representative's attorney, Robert Cole Tozer. DATED and first published August 26, 2021. Personal Representative /s/ Christine Ann Litkei

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY. COMMUNITY LENDINGWORKS, a domestic nonprofit corporation, Plaintiff, v. DOUGLAS WALLING, an individual; and BRIAN KIMBALL, an individual, Defendants. Case No. 20CV43964 SUMMONS TO: Brian Kimball, 2795 Sunnyview Lane, Eugene, OR 97405. IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON: You are hereby required to appear and defend the cross-claim filed against you in the above case within thirty days after the date of service of this summons on you, and if you fail to appear and defend, Defendant Douglas Walling will apply to the court for the relief demanded in the cross-claim. NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY! You must "appear" in this case or the other side will win automatically. To "appear" you must file with the court a legal document called a "motion" or "answer." The "motion" or "answer" must be given to the court clerk or administrator within 30 days along with the required filing fee. It must appear in proper form and have proof of service on Defendant Walling's attorney. If you have questions, you should see an attorney immediately. If you need help in finding an attorney, you may contact the Oregon State Bar's Lawyer Referral Service online at www.oregonstatebar.org or by calling (503)684-3763 (in the Portland metropolitan area) or toll-free elsewhere in Oregon at (800)452-7636. HERSHNER HUNTER, LLP. By: /s/ Donald J. Churnside, Donald J. Churnside, OSB No. 791876, Of Attorneys for Defendant Douglas Walling, 180 East 11th Avenue, P.O. Box 1475, Eugene, Oregon 97440, Telephone: (541)686-8511, Fax: (541)344-2025, Email: dchurnside@hershnerhunter.com

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF LANE. In the Matter of the Estate of Steven Russell Froling, Deceased. No. 21PB06565 NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Kelly Norton has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the personal representative at 6336 Ponderosa St., Central Point, OR 97502, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or the lawyer for the personal representative, Penny Lee Austin. Dated and first published on August 19, 2021. /s/Penny Lee Austin, Attorney for Personal Representative

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE ORS 87.192 Notice is hereby given by PARKS WestSac LLC, dba All Star Mini Storage that a public lien sale by auction of the personal property stored in the spaces listed below will be held on September 18, 2021 at the hour of 11:00 a.m. at 5353 Main Street, Springfield, Lane County, OR. The property is stored

at All Star Mini Storage, 5353 Main St., Springfield, OR. The spaces and occupants are: 102B Kimberly M Bergey, 116A Andrea Trujillo, 4 Donald Swenson, 40 Rick Berry, 163 Rick Berry, 7 Shawna Burr, 3 Jonathan Daffern, 63B Joe Chiara, 99B Craig Patterson, 107B Lawana Whipple, 81 Manuel Perry

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS - ESTATE OF SANDHYA RAI FISHER - LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21PB06710. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Kiran Alexander Fisher has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the personal representative at 696 S. 68th Street, Springfield, OR 97478. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice to the personal representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by this proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the personal representative, or the attorney for the personal representative. Dated and first published August 19, 2021. Attorney for personal representative: Salvatore Catalano, OSB#161012, Catalano Law P.C., P.O. Box 5026, Eugene, OR 97405.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS - IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY - PROBATE DEPARTMENT Case No. 19PB09106 In the matter of the Estate of Gloria Jean Hanlon, Decedent, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Karla Jean Hanlon has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the aforementioned personal representative c/o Northwest Legal, Attn: Jinoo Hwang, 975 Oak Street, Suite 700, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or attorney for the personal representative, Northwest Legal, Attn: Jinoo Hwang, 975 Oak Street, Suite 700, Eugene, OR 97401.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS Claims against the Estate of Stephen Dreyer, Deceased, Lane County Circuit Court Case No. 21PB06684, are required to be presented to the Personal Representative, Patricia M. Torchia, at 180 East 11th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97401, within four (4) months from 08/19/21, the date of first publication, or such claims may be barred. Any person whose rights may be affected by the proceeding may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the Personal Representative, or the attorneys for the Personal Representative. HERSHNER HUNTER, LLP, Attorneys

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS ESTATE OF RICHARD C. ROGERS LANE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO. 21PB06825 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with written evidence thereof attached, to the Personal Representative Shay Bailey, c/o Janice L. Mackey, Hutchinson Cox, PO Box 10886, Eugene, Oregon 97440. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within four months after the date of first publication of this notice to the Personal Representative at the address stated above for the presentation of claims or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by these proceedings may obtain additional

information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the Attorney for the Personal Representative, named above. Dated and first published 08/26/21

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE STATE OF OREGON FOR LANE COUNTY - PROBATE DEPARTMENT Case No. 21PB06084. In the matter of the Estate of David Paul Reed, Decedent, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Rachel Rogan has been appointed personal representative. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them, with vouchers attached, to the aforementioned personal representative c/o Northwest Legal, Attn: Jinoo Hwang, 975 Oak Street, Suite 700, Eugene, OR 97401, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings may obtain additional information from the records of the court, the personal representative, or attorney for the personal representative, Northwest Legal, Attn: Jinoo Hwang, 975 Oak Street, Suite 700, Eugene, OR 97401.

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Ralph E. Garrison, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 21PB06908. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 08/26/21. Kay E. Garrison, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative, Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PERSONS NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed and has qualified as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Eugene Lundeen, deceased, Lane County Probate No. 21PB05031. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present their claims, with proper vouchers, within four months after the date of first publication of this notice, as stated below, to the Personal Representative at 188 West B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, or the claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings in this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative, or the attorney for the Personal Representative. Dated and first published: 08/26/21. Michelle D. Lundeen, Personal Representative. Alex E. Gavrilidis, Attorney for Personal Representative. Leahy Cox, LLP, 188 W. B Street, Bldg. N, Springfield, Oregon 97477, (541) 746-9621

SALE OF ABANDONED MANUFACTURED HOME: One (1) 1977 Barrington manufactured dwelling, Plate number X140596, Home identification number 210205, Manufacturer's serial number(s) WAF2AB8721310918, has been abandoned by James B. Dennis. The home is located at 4475 Daisy St., Spc. 89, Springfield, OR 97478. Sale shall be by private bidding, with sealed bids, and "as is" (there is no warranty relating to title, possession, quiet enjoyment or the like). Bids to be delivered to: Country Manor MHP, 4475 Daisy Street, #91, Springfield, OR 97478, no later than midnight (the end of the day) on the 11th day of September, 2021. The minimum bid shall be \$1,557.99. Please contact Doris Kitzmiller for more information and/or questions at (541) 747-8974.

SAVAGE LOVE

Counseled Culture
BY DAN SAVAGE



Hello! I am a heterosexual man! My wife came out as a lesbian after 30 years of marriage. We have children together and we love each other. Therefore, we've decided not to divorce. We visited some therapists and they all coerced us to divorce, even though we really do not want that. We believe that an open relationship would satisfy both of us. I've always wanted a threesome anyway! We read some books about opening up a relationship and we feel like we could make an open marriage work. And we know there are others out there, so we know it's possible! Divorce is not in our plan.

My questions are...

- 1. Is it normal for therapists to force a couple to divorce when the couple does not want that?**
- 2. Can open relationships be awesome relationships?**

— Shrinks Hereabouts Revel In Not Knowing Shit

Hello! I am a gay man! My answers are...

1. Calm down. Only your wife can force you to get a divorce, SHRINKS, and *you're still married*. Which means you haven't been coerced into doing anything. And while I wouldn't describe what you encountered as normal, SHRINKS, there are a lot of therapists and counselors out there who regard preserving and protecting monogamy — its practice by individual couples, its position as a sacrosanct norm — as their chief responsibility.

Now I don't know whereabouts you live, SHRINKS, but a married couple that sees more than one therapist or counselor in a big city like mine is gonna encounter at least one open to helping married couples negotiate the transition to non-monogamy. But there's a really simple way for couples like you to make sure you're not wasting your time on anti-open and/or sex-negative counselors, SHRINK, and that's to ask the therapist or counselor what their positions are on open relationships before making your first appointment.

Zooming way out for a second: It's flabbergasting that so many couples counselors think a marriage that isn't monogamous — or one that has to become non-monogamous for both parties to remain happy in it — isn't worth saving. The bias against non-monogamous relationships is so insidious that even people whose job it is to help couples that wanna stay together figure out how they can do that will urge couples to divorce, instead of exploring non-monogamy. Never mind suggesting non-monogamy to a couple that is clearly being failed by — not failing at — monogamy.

Okay, now let's talk about those threesomes...

Your wife came out as a lesbian, SHRINKS, she didn't come out as bisexual, so it doesn't follow that you're in line to have a bunch of threesomes. Even if your wife had come out as bisexual, SHRINKS, that doesn't mean you hit the pussy lottery and you're going to be having a lot of threesomes now. Or any threesomes. Maybe you and the wife discussed this, and she wants to have sex with you despite being a lesbian — maybe she's willing and/or able to grandfather in your dick (grandmother in your dick?) and is looking forward to having threesomes with you and a girlfriend to be named later — but if you haven't heard that from your wife's mouth, SHRINKS, you might wanna tamp down those expectations. And if you haven't heard that from your wife and you've been excitedly telling every couples counselor you see about all the threesomes you're looking forward to having now that your wife is a dyke, SHRINKS, it's possible that all those couples counselors urged you to get divorced because your wife was sitting next to you on the couch blinking out distress signals.

2. Open relationships can be awesome! They can also suck! If you're happy and the wife's happy, and her future girlfriends and/or your thirds are happy, that's awesome. But if you and/or the wife are unhappy after opening the marriage up, SHRINKS, then you'll either have to close it again or you'll end up having to take the advice of all those shrinks and end it.

I'm a 36-year-old woman from the U.K. who currently resides in the Middle East. I've been seeing a man my age who is also from Western Europe. The relationship is rather new and we are still getting to know each other, but we have grown very close. However, he has only managed to come inside me once. He is a fit and healthy man who exercises regularly and does not have any underlying health conditions. So why does he lose his erection every other time and have to finish himself off when he doesn't? He said he doesn't know why this keeps happening, but he thinks it might be because he is "too in his own head" to come when he's inside me and often loses his erection because of it. I brought up the fact that we reside in the Middle East because, as an unmarried couple, it is impossible for us to seek professional help here. I have tried reassuring him and prolonging foreplay and we have an open dialogue over what we like sexually, all to no avail. Should I give it more time? Are there any toys we could use that would help? Should I advise him to seek professional help when he travels home for his holiday? I feel helpless when he gets more frustrated with every unsuccessful attempt.

— Having A Realistic Discussion On Needs

This is going to sound weird, HARDON, but you need to watch some gay porn with your boyfriend. (If you can safely view it where you happen to be living right now.) In gay porn you'll also see a lot of tops "finishing themselves off." The top fucks the bottom for a while — sometimes for a long while — and then the top pulls out and strokes himself until he comes. Sometimes you'll see tops pull out, give their dicks a few pumps, and shove back in. Right now your boyfriend he has it in his head that he's disappointing you when does what most guys in gay porn seem to enjoy doing — stroking themselves a little during sex, sometimes finishing themselves off at the end — and he's got that in his head because you put it there, HARDON, or it was already there and you've been reinforcing it. Here's how you can help: stop pathologizing the way his dick works. Tell him it's fine: tell him the sex is still a success if he wants to stroke himself now and then during sex; tell him the sex is still a success if he wants to "finish himself off" at the end like all the gay porn stars and many women do; and tell him it's fine if he wants to bail on vaginal intercourse for whatever reason — including going soft — and eat your pussy instead. Take the pressure off his dick and his dick is likelier to come through.

After a decade of celibacy, I started a strictly sexual tryst with a much younger man. He is lovely. We both agreed on terms: no strings. This is the first time I've ever had sex with a relative stranger for such an extended period. It has been two months. This is also the first time I've been honest about what I wanted sexually. So, it's a good thing. There is no possessive neediness, I have more freedom, etc. But because I have more time on my hands and a proclivity for fantasizing, I have started to resent the fact that we always follow his schedule. It's understandable, as he works hard and shares custody with an ex, and is younger than I am. Intellectually, I know and accept that. I just need help reconciling myself to these limitations. I like the sex a lot. It's what I want.

— Somehow This Resentment Is Not Good

I think you need to ask yourself why you're sabotaging a good thing here. There are limitations you've placed on this relationship (no strings, the sex you want) for what I assume are emotional reasons, STRING, and there are limitations he's placed on this relationship (not when he's parenting, not what he's working) for purely logistical reasons. If your decade of celibacy and your aversion to possessive neediness were reactions to negative experiences you had with past sexual partners — with men who were controlling or abusive — then you might be reacting to the limitations your fuck buddy needs to set as if he were attempting to control you, like past sex partners may have. In reality, of course, it's not him who's controlling you here, but circumstances beyond his control. When you feel resentful of him, STRING, go look in a mirror and say, "My reaction, while understandable given my history and potentially helpful, isn't entirely rational in this instance, it isn't fair to him, and I'm not going to let it cheat me out of sex I enjoy with someone I like." Repeat as necessary.

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